

which the Navy League of Central Pennsylvania Council strives to promote.

Lance Shaner, chairman of the Shaner Group, is known throughout central Pennsylvania for his various community efforts, which include the Chamber of Business and Industry of Centre County, United Way, Centre Volunteers in Medicine, the Boy Scouts of America, the YMCA, Mount Nittany Medical Center, and many other programs that benefit our community.

I want to thank Lance Shaner for his service to our community, and I congratulate him on this distinguished award.

CORVALLIS WILL NOT BE BULLIED BY CHINA

(Mr. DEFAZIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DEFAZIO. Recently, the Chinese consul general sent a letter to the mayor of Corvallis, a small city in my district. The letter was followed up by personal visits by the vice consul and the deputy consul general. Now, we always welcome visitors, but under these circumstances, we have some concerns.

They are trying to pressure the mayor of the City of Corvallis to compel a local businessman to remove a mural dedicated to free Tibet and Taiwan independence from his downtown building. It was characterized by the local newspaper as a shakedown because the original letter broadly hinted that it might be in Corvallis' best interest economically to cooperate with the request.

I am shocked and appalled that apparently Chinese professional diplomats have failed to read the Constitution of the United States of America before traveling here to represent their country.

This represents the basis of our representative democracy, our freedom of speech, and our rights, and it will not be bullied by China or any other overseas interest.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN JERRY COSTELLO

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCKINLEY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order honoring Congressman JERRY COSTELLO's distinguished service in Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great legislator and a close personal friend, Congressman JERRY COSTELLO, who will retire from the House of Representatives at the end of this 112th Congress.

JERRY has long been known as one of the most effective and well-liked Members of Congress since he took office in 1988. It is my honor to lead this Special Order in his honor.

I knew JERRY before I was elected to Congress in 2004. I had the privilege of working in his congressional office in the mid-1990s. Today, we serve together on two House committees: the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and the Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

JERRY has been an important mentor to me throughout my time here. I have always been impressed with his work on behalf of his constituents and his work to improve America's transportation network. He is someone who is here to get things done, and he knows how to do it.

His retirement from this body is a loss to us all. Congress will not be the same without JERRY, and I know we would all benefit if we had more colleagues like him.

There are a number of Members on both sides of the aisle who want to speak, so I will continue with the rest of my speech later if we have time. But right now, I want to recognize the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO).

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Mr. DEFAZIO. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

We could devote much more than an hour to JERRY COSTELLO's career in Congress.

I sat next to JERRY on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for more than two decades, and there is no more knowledgeable, dedicated advocate in the United States Congress—most recently on aviation issues, but across the board on infrastructure issues which underlie our economy and our productivity and our growth—than JERRY COSTELLO. His work has been phenomenal. He has done more than I could have imagined in his period of time. And we will miss him.

I congratulate him upon a well and hard-earned retirement.

Mr. LIPINSKI. I yield to the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I apologize to my good friends, but this has to be a two-way street—bipartisanship—because I do believe that JERRY was an example of the Congress that I knew and loved where we worked together to solve problems. JERRY was very good at that. I, as chairman of the Transportation Committee, we worked through with Jim Oberstar, and we never had an adversarial vote in that whole period of time because he did believe in bipartisanship for the bills in transportation, not only in his district, but for the Nation as a whole.

JERRY was a gentleman at all times. Sometimes I get a little excited, and he would remind me as the chairman that maybe I could be a little more kinder. I told him that doesn't always work. That worked for JERRY. And I do respect his capability to not only serve in his district, but making sure that this Nation had a transportation system in place that would serve this whole Nation.

I look forward to JERRY's retirement—in a sense. I'm sure he'll do good and great things after this, but we will miss his time in Congress. And as a Republican, I definitely will miss him. I do thank JERRY.

Mr. LIPINSKI. I thank you, Mr. YOUNG.

I want to recognize now the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS).

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. I want to thank my friend from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI) for yielding to me.

When I think of JERRY COSTELLO, I think of the fact that those of us in Illinois sort of had two go-to members of the Transportation Committee for many years, Bill Lipinski, who is the Congressman's father, and JERRY COSTELLO. We used to call them the "Gold Dust Twins." One of the reasons is because they had such a great relationship and worked cooperatively to make sure that our State, the State of Illinois, the home of Abraham Lincoln, was well taken care of in terms of infrastructure, but they also worked for the entire country.

I had an opportunity to travel with JERRY and his wonderful wife a number of times. Of course she is a delightful lady who is a higher education administrator, the president of a community college. And other members of their family are engaged in public service as well as what they do privately. I've never known a more congenial Member of this body or any other legislative body that I've served in than JERRY COSTELLO.

I think he's actually too young to retire, and so I've got a feeling that he's got some other things on his mind, some other things that he's going to do. I think he'll still be fishing down in the East St. Louis area, making sure that the catfish and the other creatures out there give up their habitat and become members of the land gentry.

So JERRY, take care of yourself. Have all the fun that you can, but I'm certain that there is something else that you're going to be doing.

Mr. LIPINSKI. Next, I want to recognize the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON).

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. I thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI) for organizing this hour and concur with my colleagues that an hour is not nearly enough to highlight the virtues and certainly the public service of our distinguished colleague, JERRY COSTELLO.

JERRY, as has already been said, and his lovely wife, Georgia, their beautiful